



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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WISCONSIN, Southeast

WIZ047-051-056>057-062>063-067 **Green Lake - Fond Du Lac - Sauk - Columbia - Iowa - Dane - Lafayette**

04	0300CST				0	0			Heavy Snow
	1500CST								

Heavy wet snow fell in a swath from southwest to northeast Wisconsin, but also affected parts of some southcentral counties. Eight inches accumulated in western Marquette county, Wisconsin Dells (Columbia county), Baraboo (Sauk county), and extreme northwest Iowa county. Six inches fell in Ripon (Fond du Lac county), Green Lake (Green Lake county), northwest Dane county, and in Belmont (Lafayette county). Numerous vehicle accidents were reported, which resulted in several indirectly-related injuries and one indirectly related fatality. Many schools closed for the day.

WIZ058-064-068>069 **Dodge - Jefferson - Green - Rock**

04	0300CST				0	0			Ice Storm
	0700CST								

On the southeast edge of the heavy snow swath, freezing rain fell for several hours and accumulated to 1/4 inch. Roads and sidewalks became sheets of ice, especially in rural areas. Numerous vehicle accidents resulted in several indirectly-related injuries. After the freezing rain changed to snow, accumulations totaled 1.5 to 3 inches, forcing many rural school closings.

WIZ067

Lafayette

18	1800CST				0	0	5K	10K	Flood
23	0600CST								

Flooding occurred along the Pecatonica River in and near Darlington (Lafayette county) due to the combination of 1 inch rains, rapidly melting snow, and a nearly frozen ground. Ice action and minor ice jamming complicated and enhanced the flooding in some spots. Numerous roads south of Darlington were covered with water, as well as a few north of the city. Other roads were closed due to local flooding, such as County C in the northwest part of the county, County H in the northeast, Wisconsin 176 in the southeast, and County K near Gratiot. Some farm soil erosion (\$10,000) and road shoulder washouts (\$5000) occurred.

The Pecatonica River at Darlington rose above its flood stage of 11 feet at 2215 CST on the 18th, crested at 14.69 feet at 2145 CST on the 21st, and went below flood stage at 0515 CST on the 23rd. The crest was a 2 to 5 year flood, and overall flooding was "moderate."

WIZ068

Green

18	2000CST				0	0	10K	10K	Flood
28	2359CST								

Flooding took place along the Pecatonica River in and near Martintown (Green county) due to the combination of .50 to 1.00 inch of rain, rapidly melting snow, and a nearly frozen ground. Ice action and minor ice jamming complicated and enhanced some of the flooding. The Honey Creek in Monroe flooded a local road, County EE near Monticello was covered with water, and water covered many roads near the Sugar Creek and its tributaries. Some of the roads near Sugar River were closed for several days. Several roads suffered minor shoulder washouts (\$10,000) due to swollen creeks and culverts, and there was some farm soil erosion (\$10,000).

At Martintown, the Pecatonica River rose above its flood stage of 11 feet at 2030 CST on the 18th, crested at 19.09 feet at 2300 on the 23rd, and remained above flood stage into March. This crest was a 10 year flood, and the flooding was rated as "moderate to severe."

At Brodhead, the Sugar River rose above its flood stage of 5 feet at 2100 CST on the 20th, crested at 8.45 feet at 1900 CST on the 21st, and fell below flood stage at 2200 CST on the 24th.



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WISCONSIN, Southeast

WIZ069

Rock

20	2000CST	0	0	5K	Flood
24	0400CST				

Overnight rains of .75 to 1.5 inches across Rock county into the 21st, coupled with rapid snow melt and a nearly frozen ground, resulted in widespread flooding of lowlands in the county. The Sugar River in the southwest corner flooded over or closed roads in that area, halting traffic west of Avon. East of Janesville in the Greenbelt area, some roads were covered with up to 3 feet of water at the time of highest water levels. Rising water at one point threatened to spill over Highway 14 east of Janesville. High water was reported on roads near Orfordville, Brodhead, and Avalon. Elsewhere, Turtle Creek overflowed its banks in several spots and flooded local roads. Beloit also had several road closures due to high water levels. Overall, at least 36 road locations in the county had water over them, or were closed for stretches of time. Some minor farm soil erosion was noted (\$5,000).

WIZ047-051-056>057-
062>063

Green Lake - Fond Du Lac - Sauk - Columbia - Iowa - Dane

21	0000CST	0	0	Heavy Snow
	1200CST			

A narrow band of heavy snow fell from west of Madison to west of Fond du Lac. Twelve inches were measured at Blue Mounds State Park (1716 feet msl, Iowa county), 8 to 12 inches on top of the Baraboo Bluffs, and 8 inches in extreme western Dane county on the Military Ridge near Blue Mound. Slightly cooler temperatures at these higher elevations may have contributed to the higher snow amounts since temperatures were in the lower 30s. Six inches fell in southwest Columbia county, in Green Lake (Green Lake county), and in Ripon (Fond du Lac county). Some freezing rain was mixed in with the snow over Fond du Lac county, resulting in some vehicle accidents.

WIZ064

Jefferson

21	0400CST	0	0	0.50K	Flood
22	0600CST				

Overnight rains of 1.00 to 1.50 inches in southeast Jefferson county, coupled with snow melt and a nearly frozen ground resulted in flooding in and around Palmyra. Two local village roads were covered with water that reached 1 to 2 feet deep. Hillside runoff washed out the bottom of a resident's gravel driveway about 1 mile north of Palmyra. Several other roads in southeast and east central Jefferson county had 1 to 4 inches of water covering them during this period of time.

WIZ046>047-051>052-
056>059

Marquette - Green Lake - Fond Du Lac - Sheboygan - Sauk - Columbia - Dodge - Washington

27	0200CST	0	0	Heavy Snow
	0900CST			

Heavy, wet snow fell in a west to east swath across southcentral and southeast Wisconsin. Maximum amounts of 7.5 inches were measured at Rock Springs (Sauk county) and Portage (Columbia county), while 6 to 6.5 inches fell over southern Marquette county, southern Green Lake county, most of Dodge county, southern Fond du Lac county, northern Washington county, and most of Sheboygan county. Lesser amounts of 4 to 5 inches were noted in the Madison to Milwaukee area.